

**DOCTOR WHO
RADIO TIMES
THE MASQUE OF MANDRAGORA**

ORIGINAL BROADCAST – 4-28 September 1976

PREVIEW – Issue Dated 28 August to 3 September 1976

BBC1 AUTUMN SEASON BEGINS NEXT WEEK

Autumn means plenty – plenty of new programmes, and the return of old favourites too, on BBC television and radio. Over the next few weeks **RADIO TIMES** will be reflecting the plethora of exciting, hilarious and intriguing new series with big autumn season special issues. The next two are about BBC1. Now read on . . .

There's a new look to Saturday evenings on BBC1 this autumn. For the highlight of the night – and probably many viewers' weeks – promises to be the new drama serial *The Duchess of Duke Street*, set in the elegant upper-class world of London in the 1900s. With Gemma Jones as the heroine Louisa, *The Duchess* also stars Christopher Cazenove, John Welsh and Victoria Plucknett, and is inspired by the story of Rosa Lewis, who ran the Cavendish Hotel and was a mistress of the Prince of Wales (later King Edward VII). In **RADIO TIMES** Christopher Matthew writes about the carefully researched background to the serial; and Gemma Jones appears on next week's cover, surrounded by some of the fare that the fictional Louisa would have served her guests. In the following week you can meet the man behind the food: 'good simple English cooking' fanatic Michael Smith.

Also in BBC1's entertainment-packed Saturday night are *The Two Ronnies* in a new series that (we can reveal) includes raspberries by Spike Milligan; the return of *Dr Who*, this time in a story set in 15th-century Italy; and more of Michael Parkinson and his guests. Meanwhile *Kojak* moves to a new day – Thursday – with a new series. In **RADIO TIMES** we meet the less-celebrated actors around Telly Savalas – men like Kevin Dobson (who plays Crocker), Mark Russell (Sapperstein) and George Savalas (Stavros). Thursday also sees a new crime serial set in the Midlands underworld; it's called *Gangsters*, and its origins are explained in next week's **RADIO TIMES** by Philip Oakes. Other new series introduced by Oakes include the new Sunday teatime serialisation of *Lorna Doone*, starring Emily Richard; *The Good Life*, *Dick Emery* and *Mastermind*.

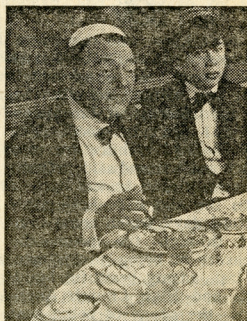
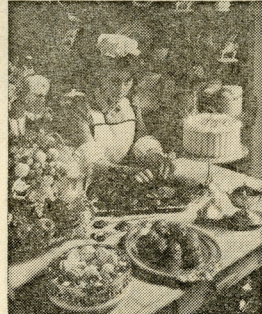
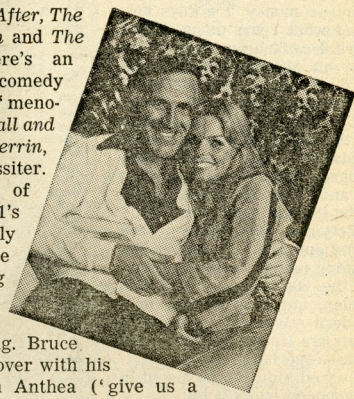
Also back and featured in next week's issue are *Angels*, *Softly*, *Softly, Happy Ever After*, *The Brothers, Parkinson* and *The Waltons*; and there's an entertaining new comedy serial about a 'meno-pausal' man: *The Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin*, starring Leonard Rossiter.

After the feast of week one in BBC1's autumn season, surely (you may ask) there can't be anything more to regale us with in week two? But you'd be wrong. Bruce Forsyth is on the cover with his own, his very own Anthea ('give us a twirl') Redfern – which can only mean one thing: the return of the ever-popular *Generation Game*. We attempt to analyse the Forsyth magic in a **RADIO TIMES** profile by David Robson, as Bruce and Anthea (and of course Eight who will generate) return to BBC1 on Saturday evenings.

The week of 11-17 September also sees a new season of *Play for Today* on BBC1 – and it kicks off with what looks like a sure-fire success, *Bar Mitzvah Boy*. Jack Rosenthal, whose most recent play for BBC was the award-winning *The Evacuees*, and has written many a comedy script in the last few years, is its author, and he has set it in the Manchester Jewish community he knew as a boy. In **RADIO TIMES** he tells Madeleine Kingsley about his Northern ethnic background, and the way he works on his plays: 'Have you noticed how life is always a much greater cliché than drama is ever allowed to be?'

This is the week, too, of nine new and returning children's series on BBC1. There's old favourite *Blue Peter*, which includes reports from Brunei where John, Peter and Lesley have been filming this summer; a new comedy series from the North, *Potter's Picture Palace*; cartoon series including *Huckleberry Hound*, *It's the Wolf* and a newcomer to the five-minutes-before-the-news slot, *Nellie and Noah*. Also back on BBC1 are *Tomorrow's World* and *Sportsnight*; *Tonight* with the new face (but familiar voice) of John Timpson; and the last night of the Proms, with all its traditional jollity.

Traditional too is the way **RADIO TIMES** follows its BBC1 autumn season weeks with BBC2 special issues – and this September is no exception. Watch out for news on this page of the following two issues, which have Peter O'Toole and Rod Stewart respectively on their covers.



**BBC1
AUTUMN
SEASON**

Here it is – the start of BBC1's autumn season, with 19 new series beginning in seven days. Some of them are new, some old favourites; and from page 4 onwards we take a look at nearly all of them. But first of all, on this page, the days and times of all that's new on BBC1 . . .

SATURDAY

As good cooks go



BBC1's Saturday evening has a new look to it. Where you'd normally expect a film, from this week there's a new drama serial – **The Duchess of Duke Street** (7.25 pm). It's set in that decade when Victoria's reign was nearing its close and Edward VII gave his name to a new era, and stars Gemma Jones as a Cockney girl whose cooking skill brings her to the notice of the Prince of Wales . . . For the real-life background, see page 60.

● More familiar is the return of **Dr Who** (6.10 pm – see page 9), **The Two Ronnies** (8.15 pm – see page 4) and **Parkinson** (11.0 pm – see page 9).

DR WHO'S RENAISSANCE

OUR TRADITIONAL MONSTERS, says Philip Hinchcliffe, producer of the new **Dr Who** series, now entering its 13th year on BBC television, have become a bit outdated. He believes there are still more fanciful monsters to be summoned up. 'There is a growing taste for science fantasy and romance,' he says, 'and I believe we should try to meet it. Our audiences range from five- to 90-year-olds and we have to be careful not to lose credence with our older viewers.' So, over the last couple of years, Hinchcliffe has put the Daleks into mothballs, along with the Cybermen and the Ice Warriors. Doubtless, they will stage a comeback: 'But, for now, I'd like to try something different.'

The new four-part adventure *The Masque of Mandragora* by Louis Marks - is set in Renaissance Italy. 'And,' says Hinchcliffe, 'the atmosphere is positively Shakespearean. It begins with the Doctor messing around in the control-room of the Tardis and accidentally heading it into the Mandragora Helix, an extra-terrestrial energy force which appears as a ball of fire and takes over human beings. The Doctor and Sarah - played, as before, by Tom Baker and Elisabeth Sladen - become involved in the intrigues of a noble family in which a wicked uncle is trying to usurp his nephew, the rightful duke, aided by a secret sect led by the astromancer, Hieronymus. We have sword-play, horse-riding and magic. I think it's a marvellous mixture.'

Hinchcliffe found his film locations in and around Portmeirion, the extraordinarily Welsh-Italian village inspired by memories of Portofino and created in Merionethshire by the architect Sir Clough Williams-Ellis. 'We have chosen our locations very carefully,' says Philip Hinchcliffe. 'They're perfect for this epic, swash-buckling type of story.'

Another innovation: 'The Tardis has a new control-room. It's always been explained that the ship is infinitely bigger inside than it appears from the outside and the Doctor reveals the new quarters by opening a forgotten door apparently at random. It's rather dusty and Edwardian inside. But we in-

vited members of the Dr Who Appreciation Society to inspect the controls and I'm assured they're in good working order.'

He has also received a ten-page thesis from a viewer, now living in Rhodesia, which formulates an ingenious theory as to how the Tardis makes its jour-

Who, what and where? The doctor comes back down to earth in Italy

neys through time and space. 'Viewers are increasingly sophisticated,' says Philip Hinchcliffe, 'and that's an excellent thing. Part of the fun lies in keeping up with them.'



BBC1



'Mandradora energy! Get down! Quick!' It's the start of a new Dr Who adventure, and the Doctor (Tom Baker) finds himself involved in more strange happenings, this time in 15th-century Italy. Part 1: 6.10 pm

6.10 *New series*

Dr Who

starring **Tom Baker**

in *Masque of Mandragora*

A four-part story by **LOUIS MARKS**

1: An evil intruder in the Tardis
... The Doctor and Sarah are
caught in a dark world of intrigue
and sorcery.

Dr Who.....**TOM BAKER**

Sarah Jane.....**ELISABETH SLADEN**

Count Federico.....**JON LAURIMORE**

Captain Rossini.....**ANTONY CARRICK**

Soldier.....**PAT GORMAN**

Giuliano.....**GARETH ARMSTRONG**

Marco.....**TIM PIGOTT-SMITH**

Hieronymous.....**NORMAN JONES**

High Priest.....**ROBERT JAMES**

Brother.....**BRIAN ELLIS**

Incidental music by

DUDLEY SIMPSON

Script editor **ROBERT HOLMES**

Designer **BARRY NEWBERY**

Producer **PHILIP HINCHCLIFFE**

Director **RODNEY BENNETT**

**FEATURE
P9**

6.5 Dr Who

starring **Tom Baker**
in *Masque of Mandragora*
A four-part story

by LOUIS MARKS

2: Fear reigns in San Martino as
the Hooded Terror seeks further
victims.

Dr Who.....	TOM BAKER
Count Federico.....	JON LAURIMORE
Guards.....	JAMES APPLEBY, JOHN CLAMP
Sarah Jane.....	ELISABETH SLADEN
High Priest.....	ROBERT JAMES
Brother.....	BRIAN ELLIS
Pikemen...	PETER WALSHE, JAY NEIL
Hieronymous.....	NORMAN JONES
Giuliano.....	GARETH ARMSTRONG
Marco.....	TIM PIGOTT-SMITH
Captain Rossini.....	ANTONY CARRICK
Titan voice.....	PETER TUDDENHAM

Incidental music by DUDLEY SIMPSON

Script editor ROBERT HOLMES

Designer BARRY NEWBERY

Producer PHILIP HINCHCLIFFE

Director RODNEY BENNETT

6.10 Dr Who

starring **Tom Baker**
in *Masque of Mandragora*

A four-part story

by LOUIS MARKS

3: Torture and death await the Doctor as the Powers of Darkness envelop Earth.

Dr Who.....TOM BAKER

Giuliano.....GARETH ARMSTRONG

Count Federico.....JON LAURIMORE

Captain Rossini...ANTONY CARRICK

Sarah Jane.....ELISABETH SLADEN

High Priest.....ROBERT JAMES

Hieronymous.....NORMAN JONES

Brother.....BRIAN ELLIS

Marco.....TIM PIGOTT-SMITH

Incidental music by DUDLEY SIMPSON

Script editor ROBERT HOLMES

Designer BARRY NEWBERY

Producer PHILIP HINCHCLIFFE

Director RODNEY BENNETT

6.10 Dr Who

starring **Tom Baker**

in *Masque of Mandragora*

A four-part story by **LOUIS MARKS**

4: Besieged in the Palace, the Doctor takes a last desperate gamble. But are the Brothers of Demnos already in command?

Dr Who.....**TOM BAKER**

Hieronymous.....**NORMAN JONES**

High Priest.....**ROBERT JAMES**

Brother.....**BRIAN ELLIS**

Sarah Jane.....**ELISABETH SLADEN**

Captain Rossini.....**ANTONY CARRICK**

Marco.....**TIM PIGOTT-SMITH**

Giuliano.....**GARETH ARMSTRONG**

Entertainer.....**STUART FELL**

Dancers: **PEGGY DIXON**

JACK EDWARDS, ALISTAIR FULLARTON

MICHAEL REID, KATHY WOLFF

Incidental music by **DUDLEY SIMPSON**

Script editor **ROBERT HOLMES**

Designer **BARRY NEWBERY**

Producer **PHILIP HINCHCLIFFE**

Director **RODNEY BENNETT** (Next week:
The Hand of Fear, a new story)